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**Asha Zürich is a chapter of Asha for Education, a world- wide organisation that works dedicatedly to catalyze socio-economic change through the education of underprivileged children in India. We have no paid staff, no office rent and hence very low overheads, typically covered through contributions from volunteers. This is a key factor that distinguishes us from many other organizations. In 2014, Asha Zurich is sending more than 1,000 underprivileged children to school with an annual budget of more than CHF 35,000.**

## FIRST WYOP-ASHA RUN



On 22nd June 2014, the Zurich based running club "Write Your Own Prescription" (WYOP) organized its first public running event in collaboration with Asha, at Fronwald stadium in Affoltern, Zurich. Over 100 participants ran in three categories, which catered to both individuals and families.

WYOP organized this event with two main purposes, 1) to raise money to be donated to Asha Zurich & 2) to promote a healthier lifestyle among the participants. The high degree of motivation seen in the runners and the generous amount of CHF 1,453 raised for Asha Zurich assured us that both purposes had been met. More can be found at, [www.wyop.ch](http://www.wyop.ch)

## UPCOMING EVENTS (JULY- SEPTEMBER)

### DHOOM MACHALE – BOLLYWOOD PARTY

18. July (Friday) at Hey City club, Zurich Oerlikon

Please visit our facebook page or email us at [asha\\_zurich@yahoo.com](mailto:asha_zurich@yahoo.com)



### SPANDAN – NOTES OF HOPE

27. September at GZ Oerlikon, Zurich

Asha Zurich's annual charity concert

- Bharatnatyam performance by Morag Pryde
- Indian classical vocal by Sayantani Dasgupta

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are very happy to present to you our second newsletter of the year. In the last three months we have organized two successful events and we have some pretty exciting events coming up in the rest of the summer months as well. Some organizational changes have occurred in the mean time: SACSAS projects are now being managed by Namita Agrawal and Dipshikha Bannerjee instead of Kirtimalini Gadre. We have also taken up the additional responsibility of managing four other schools (290 children) run by the SACSAS academy in Manipur through a partnership with Asha Houston. This is a unique achievement in Asha Zurich's history. We are also reviewing a few new project proposals, and hope to finalize one of them soon. I hope that you will enjoy reading this newsletter.

Pratyush (Prat) Das Kanungo  
President, Asha Zurich

## ASHA – MAKAIBARI ANNIVERSARY



In spring it was a year ago since Asha teamed up with the Makaibari Tea Estate and Asha's Tea Fairy started to sell the unique Makaibari teas in Switzerland. The entire profit goes to Asha. The Asha member Doris aka Tea Fairy went back to the Tea Estate to experience the "Paila Patti", the day of the first plucking on 17 March 2014, to learn more about the tea production and to roam in the beautiful "Land of the White Orchid".

We would like to share some impressions with you. [www.teafairy.ch](http://www.teafairy.ch)



## FUNDRAISERS IN SECOND QUARTER, 2014

### ASHA-CHAT WITH CHAAT INDIAN STREET FOOD CAFE



On 14. June, Asha Zürich jointly organized an Indian street food cafe with Chat with Chaat, an Indian street-food brand started by Asha Zürich's long-time volunteer Kirtimalini Gadre. Volunteers helped in cooking and serving the food, as well as in promoting Asha. The event was attended by more than 150 people and helped us raise about CHF 2,200 for our projects.

### DONATION FROM AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, RIYADH, SAUDIA ARABIA



To celebrate multiculturalism and to raise funds for the multicultural students club, we organize fund-raising events and activities such as bake sales, dances and games throughout the year. A portion of this fund is diverted at the end of the year towards Haiti and any activity/organization that the club members may choose.

This year, the club chose to divert a portion of the fund towards Asha Zurich since all club members were convinced that this organization to be the most apt. Our club members were very excited to learn that the fund raised by them throughout the year will be helping the underprivileged children in their education.

- by Tressy Gonsalves, Saudia Arabia

## OUR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

### 1. LOK BIRADARI PRAKALP

Complete residential schooling of 100 tribal children in Hemalkasa village, Maharashtra.

#### Project Status

-Spending and progress report has been received for the first six months. Second instalment of funding will be done soon.



### 2. SAVE CHILDREN SAVE SOCIETY

50% of the educational cost in SACSAS schools in remote villages of Manipur.

#### Project Status:

MoU signed with Asha Houston for 4 other SACSAS schools. Funds already transferred via Asha Global



### 3. VISHWAMANDAL SEVASHRAM

Educational cost of around 900 children of the Bhil tribe in Dhule district (Maharashtra) are covered in this project.

#### Project Status:

Spending and progress report has been received for the first six months. Second instalment of funding will be done soon.





## SUMMER CAMP AT LOK BIRADARI PRAKALP

A summer camp for Hemalkasa and children from other developed cities was conducted in April to motivate children and have an effective exchange of knowledge and culture. 100 children along with 10 parents/volunteers attended the camp.

An essential element of the camp was teaching 'Social Surroundings Consciousness': how to ensure personal and food hygiene. A unique feature of this camp was that an astronomer, historian and zoologist were invited to interact with the children and show them their equipment and instruments. Indoor games and outdoor activities such as trekking were also organized. The interaction with nature, experts from various fields and children from other parts of India proved to be entertaining, informative and motivating for the children.

At the end of the camp, they were asked to write something about their overall experience during the camp. There was an overwhelming response and numerous sentiments, wishes, thoughts and greetings poured via a single piece of paper before leaving back to their homes.

This event clearly illustrates LBP's efforts to provide inclusive growth to LBP children. Based on this overwhelmingly positive response, LBP has now decided to continue holding such camps every year.

- by Umesh Ganoo

from Marathi version by Mr. Navin Kale.

<https://navinkale.wordpress.com/>

## SUMMER STUDY CAMP AT VMS

This year the camp was held between 20. and 25. April. This camp gave the children an opportunity to take the "leap of faith" that the existential Philosopher Kierkegaard speaks of and experience boarding-school life. In this intensive camp we dealt with all important subjects (Maths, English, Marathi and Art). The director, supervisors and co-ordinator individually met each child and decided upon who fits well & is ready to take this "leap" from non-formal to formal schooling.

- by Father Assis Rodrigues, Dhule



## Vol nteer

Asha Zürich needs yoU

The core of this organization is volunteerism. The incredible spirit of its selfless and dedicated volunteers and their friends has helped Asha to attain its goal.

### What motivates someone to join Asha?

Let us hear from one of our latest volunteers, Dipshikha B.

"Asha's participation in Zurich Marathon 2014 made me aware of the type of work that Asha has been doing. This is for the first time that I witnessed people running for such a noble cause. I was amazed to see the active participation of volunteers' from Asha in the marathon with the desire of sending few more children to school in India and it inspired me to be a part of the team Asha Zurich."

Dipshikha is now one of the project co-ordinators of SACSAS.

### Want to join Asha?

Register yourself with us today at [asha\\_zurich@yahoo.com](mailto:asha_zurich@yahoo.com).

## GIVING TO ASHA

Asha Zurich team select educational projects for underprivileged children in India through a rigorous review process involving a site visit by a volunteer. Funds for the project are raised by direct donation and charity events.

Even small, regular donations count. Asha encourages its well-wishers to take part in the Charity As Your Hobby program.



With as little as CHF 20 per month, one can sponsor the monthly cost of education, food and accommodation of a child.

### PLEASE MAKE A DONATION!

<b>Bank</b>	UBS Zurich In favor of Asha Zurich
<b>Account Number</b>	206-259021.40Q
<b>IBAN</b>	CH29 0020 6206 2590 2140 Q